

**Windham Historic District / Heritage Committee
Meeting Thursday, October 1, 2020
Windham Town Museum, 7:00PM**

Present: Frank Farmer (Alternate), Peter Griffin (Regular), Heath Partington (Selectmen Liaison), Carol Pynn (Regular), Derek Saffie (Regular), Wendy Williams (Regular)

Absent: Dr. Michael Speidel (Regular)

Guests: Nick Shea

The Board of Selectmen accepted the Joan Normington Memorial Donations at their September 28th meeting. Uses for the funds will be discussed in future meetings.

Carol Pynn and Wendy Williams will meet with Betty Dunn for a third time to work on revising Section 719 and Section 608. There was a brief discussion of what to do with sites on the Historic/Cultural Resource List that are not buildings.

Conservation Commission and the HD/HC are working together on the historic stone culvert near North Lowell Road. The New Hampshire DOT will be attending a Board of Selectmen meeting to present their account of recent work relating to the culvert. Carol Pynn and Wendy Williams will possibly complete a survey of the culvert for the purpose of having it recognized on the state list of historic culverts.

Wendy Williams gave an update on the Town Hall, outlining the grant process (see attachment titled "Town Hall Grant Process" immediately following the minutes). The entire process may be approximately three years. The process will begin with an assessment of the state of the building by Steve Bedard; the assessment will cost \$4,500. A New Hampshire Preservation Alliance grant may be available to cover half the cost of the assessment.

Carol Pynn informed the Committee that the state has acknowledged the Cobbett's Pond bridge is on a long list of structures awaiting repair.

Frank Farmer gave an update on the electrification of the Windham Depot. Mark Samsel and the Depot Committee approved contributing \$750 towards the electrification; this will be combined with the approximately \$1,300 from the HD/HC. Five electricians have been contacted and their quotes will include supplying each building with a single outlet. Mr. Farmer is hopeful quotes will be received by October 9th, and when enough quotes are received Wendy Williams will call a special meeting to approve one.

Peter Griffin met with a bronze restorer regarding restoration of the Governor Dinsmore Plaque, as well as four other historic plaques and monuments. In addition to the Governor Dinsmore Plaque, the restoration expert will provide an assessment and quotes for the conservation and restoration of the plaque at Indian Rock, two plaques at the Cemetery on the Plains, and a marble monument at Cemetery on the Plains.

Peter Griffin also informed the Committee of the Executive Council's vote to sell to the town of Windham a one acre parcel on which Indian Rock is located. There may be an effort to protect Indian Rock as a Historic District, contingent on the town's successful purchase of the land.

McAuley Commons has repaired a deteriorated section of Searles Wall.

The property owner of 88 Range Road has received a certified letter sent by the Committee regarding the owner's obligation to perform work and upkeep of the property as required by a state easement. If no response is received within four weeks, the Committee will seek the help of the state in pursuing further action.

Carol Pynn made a motion, seconded by Frank Farmer, to accept the minutes of the meetings of September 10th and September 17th; Peter Griffin abstained on September 10th minutes due to absence, and Derek Saffie abstained on the September 17th minutes due to absence.

Peter Griffin gave a Beautification Committee update. An additional \$50,000 has been approved for work at Town Common, pending approval of the Board of Selectmen.

There was a brief discussion of penalties for vandalizing or damaging a Historic District. Wendy Williams is awaiting an answer from Attorney Campbell.

Two building permits for sites on the Historical/Cultural Resource List were brought to the HD/HC; 21-G-43 and 18-L-670.

Brief discussion of historic-inspired street names as requested by CDD director; suggestions are attached to minutes.

Peter Griffin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15PM; seconded by Frank Farmer, passed 5 - 0.

Minutes by Derek Saffie – Secretary